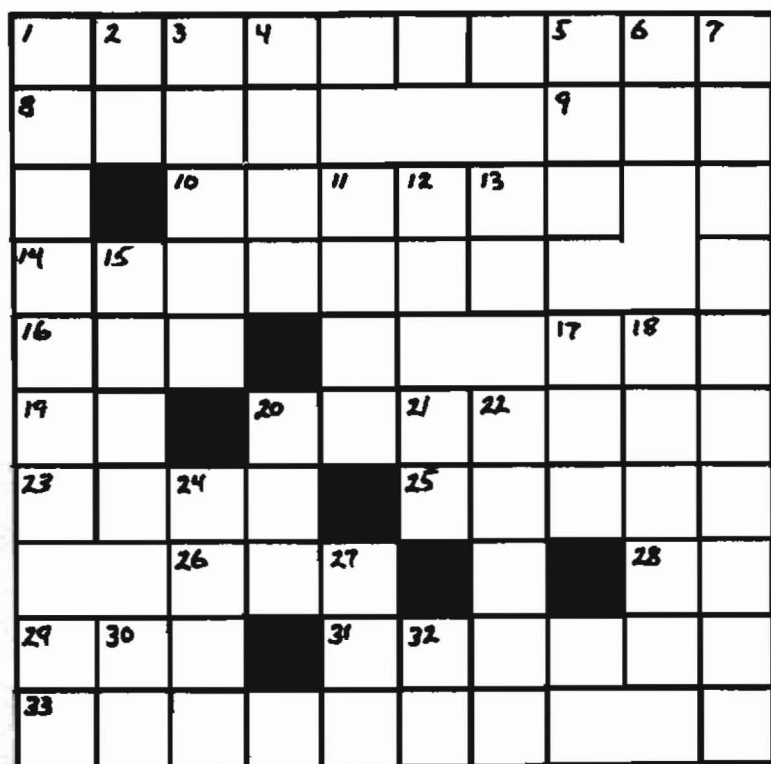


DOUBLE CROSSED

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Study the diagram above. When the puzzle is completed some letters will belong only with an across or a down word. These are called blind letters. American puzzles do not allow them but British ones use them with great abandon. This abandonment is annoying to the solver; for for lack of a word you see you see a hole in the whole. Clearly some approach must be used by the constructor to ensure no ambiguity (if such be his desire). This puzzle has such. How quickly can you spot it? You are tops if this hits you much before the end. The authority for all combinations but one is Webster's Third. This loner is itself contained in the exception. The authority for all definitions is me. They are on the level no matter which way you look at it. See if you can solve it without recourse to a dictionary. Beware, however, that you are not DOUBLE CROSSED.

ACROSS

1. Half exclamatory numbers are first
8. Rosa plays her ancient zither backwards
9. O it is Uncle Pedro
10. Classical news spot often visited now
14. Oil and water controversy area
16. Finally relating to but not best
17. Briefly free of all average
19. Accent it with a short form
20. Unheard speaker
23. Rasputin had him
25. Practice tones
26. Spirit in Roman villa
28. Golden alternative
29. Pine for macaw coming or going
31. Do not see Africa's trip is a far cry from America's
33. Padauks not railroad tracks

DOWN

1. Dramatic showman is mostly first
2. Like Roman coin
3. Reddish deposit containing coal
4. Do not stir black, tan, and white dogs or why not?
5. Go to a Bontok village subdivision
6. Would one walk one for one in China?
7. Spewed out by steam not from calliope
11. The subject is usually roses
12. Note used with woman's family name
13. Short element too rare to be in indicated amount
15. Stupid people on the sofa
17. Iraqi coin first used in filigree
18. Concerning a mixup in underwater explosion detection
20. Money in holes?
21. Like Persian card game
22. Does not work like scrambled colts and fillies
24. Winglike part of Mercury's shoes
27. Hindu sage easily titled in English or Indian
29. Current element taken shortly before meals
30. Artificial language first spoken in Rhodesia
32. Mulberry found in Bengal